

Message Text

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43

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-06 ISO-00 COM-02 INT-05 L-02 STR-01

AID-05 CIAE-00 FRB-01 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00

XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 CIEP-01 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

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R 061330Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5178

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 18239

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ENRG,UR,EG

SUBJECT: GOE INTEREST IN U.S. COKING COAL

REF: A) CAIRO 9708; B) STATE 267212

1. REPORTS REF A OF EGYPTIAN DIFFICULTIES IN OBTAINING COKING COAL SUPPLIES PREVIOUSLY CONTRACTED WITH SOVIETS ARE INTERESING IN VIEW FACT THAT TWO U.S. COMPANIES HAVE RECENTLY INFORMED COMMERCIAL OFFICE THAT SOVIET FOREIGN TRADE ORGANIZATION SOYUZ-PROMEXPORT, WHICH RESPONSIBLE FOR EXPORTS OF COKE AND COKING COAL. WAS RELATIVELY POSITIVE WHEN ASKED WHETHER THESE PRODUCTS WOULD BE AVILABLE DURING 1975 FOR EXPORT TO U.S. SOYUZPROMEXPORT WAS NOT IN POSITION TO STATE AMOUNTS WHICH IT MIGHT HAVE AVAILABLE.

2. COMMENT: WHILE WE HAVE NO INFORMATION ON TERMS OF SOVIET-EGYPTIAN COKING COAL CONTRACT, WE ASSUME THAT THIS DEAL FALLS UNDER SOVIET-EGYPTIAN CLEARING AGREEMENT. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF SOVIETS WERE TEMPTED TO HOLD OFF ON SUPPLIES FOR EGYPT IN ORDER SELL COKING COAL

TO U.S. FIRMS FOR DOLLARS (AND PERHAPS AT HIGHER PRICES THAN THOSE STIPULATED IN SOVIET-EGYPTIAN CONTRACT).

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Message Attributes

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